

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1                    Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for preserving plant tissue, said  
2 method comprising the steps of:

- 3                    (a) obtaining a dehydrated plant tissue; and  
4                    (b) saturating said plant tissue with a saturation mix, said saturation  
5 mix ~~imparting extreme flexibility and little or no chemical~~  
6 ~~cross-linking in the resulting saturated plant tissue~~ composed of a  
7 silicone styrene elastomer resin mix,

- 8                    (c) wherein said silicone styrene elastomer resin mix is selected from  
9 the group consisting of:

- 10                    (i) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene;  
11                    (ii) block copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene;  
12                    (iii) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene mixed with  
13 a rubber vulcanizing agent;  
14                    (iv) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene mixed with  
15 an antioxidant;  
16                    (v) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene mixed with  
17 a UV stabilizer;  
18                    (vi) PLASTI DIP®;  
19                    (vii) PLASTI DIP® UV STABLE; and  
20                    (viii) a combination of the following: copolymers of  
21 dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene and a rubber vulcanizing

22                    agent and an antioxidant and a UV stabilizer and PLASTI  
23                    DIP® and PLASTI DIP® UV STABLE.  
24

1                    Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, said method further comprising  
2 the step of:

3                    (a)     applying a coating mix to said saturated plant tissue.  
4

1                    Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, said step of  
2 obtaining a dehydrated plant tissue comprising:

- 3                    (a)     obtaining a fresh-cut plant tissue;  
4                    (b)     forming said fresh-cut plant tissue; and  
5                    (c)     dehydrating said fresh-cut plant tissue.  
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1                    Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3, wherein said step of  
2 dehydrating said fresh cut plant tissue comprises at least one method selected from the  
3 group consisting of:

- 4                    (a)     burying dehydrating method;  
5                    (b)     burying and sealing dehydrating method;  
6                    (c)     hang-drying dehydrating method;  
7                    (d)     microwaving dehydrating method;  
8                    (e)     chemical dehydrating method; and  
9                    (f)     freeze-drying dehydrating method.  
10

1                   Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising  
2 a cleaning step comprising at least one step selected from the group consisting of:

- 3                   (a) vibrating said plant tissue to remove said dehydrating material;
- 4                   (b) air-brushing said plant tissue to remove said dehydrating material;
- 5                   and
- 6                   (c) brushing said plant tissue to remove said dehydrating material.

1                   Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, said step of  
2 saturating said plant tissue with said saturation mix further comprising the steps of:

- 3                   (a) draining said saturation mix from said saturated plant tissue; and
- 4                   (b) drying said saturated plant tissue.

1                   Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, said step of  
2 coating said plant tissue further comprising the steps of:

- 3                   (a) applying a coating mix to said saturated plant tissue;
- 4                   (b) draining said coating mix from said coated plant tissue; and
- 5                   (c) drying said coated plant tissue.

1                   Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of claim 2, wherein said  
2 coating mix is composed of at least one mix selected from the group consisting of:

- 3                   (a) solution composed of derivatives of natural rubber;
- 4                   (b) natural rubber solution;
- 5                   (c) any solution imparting a rubber-like flexibility; and
- 6                   (d) a silicone styrene elastomer resin mix.

1                   Claim 9 (cancelled)

1                    Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 ~~claim 10~~, further  
2 comprising a step of adding said silicone styrene elastomer resin mix to a solvent, said  
3 solvent selected from the group consisting of:

- 4                    (a) toluene;  
5                    (b) xylene;  
6                    (c) naphtha;  
7                    (d) acetone; and  
8                    (e) various combinations of elements of (a)-(d).

9  
1                    Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 2, further comprising:

- 2                    (a) applying a polishing mix to said coated plant tissue.

3  
1                    Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, said step of applying a  
2 polishing mix to said coated plant tissue further comprising the steps of:

- 3                    (a) draining said polished plant tissue; and  
4                    (b) drying said polished plant tissue.

5  
1                    Claim 13 (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein said  
2 polishing mix is composed of at least one polishing mix selected from the group  
3 consisting of:

- 4                    (a) a silicone styrene elastomer resin mix; and  
5                    (b) "F-799" PLASTI-DIP®.

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1                    Claim 14 (cancelled)

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1                    Claim 15 (cancelled)

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1                    Claim 16 (cancelled)

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1 Claim 17 (cancelled)  
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1 Claim 18 (cancelled)  
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1 Claim 19 (cancelled)  
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1 Claim 20 (currently amended): The A method of claim 19 for preserving  
2 plant tissue, said method comprising the steps of:

3 (a) obtaining a dehydrated plant tissue;

4 (b) saturating said plant tissue with a saturation mix; and

5 (c) said saturation mix composed of a silicone styrene elastomer resin  
6 mix;

7 (d) wherein said silicone styrene elastomer resin mix comprises one or  
8 more copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene.  
9

1 Claim 21 (previously presented): A method for preserving plant tissue,  
2 said method comprising the steps of:

3 (a) obtaining a dehydrated plant tissue;

4 (b) saturating said plant tissue with a saturation mix;

5 (c) said saturation mix being composed of a silicone styrene elastomer  
6 resin mix; and

7 (d) said silicone styrene elastomer resin mix comprises one or more  
8 copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene.  
9

1                   Claim 22 (previously presented): The method of claim 21, said step of  
2 saturating said plant tissue with said saturation mix further comprising the steps of:

- 3                   (a)     draining said saturation mix from said saturated plant tissue; and  
4                   (b)     drying said saturated plant tissue.

5  
1                   Claim 23 (previously presented): The method of claim 22, further  
2 comprising the step of applying a coating mix to said saturated plant tissue, said step of  
3 applying a coating mix further comprising the steps of:

- 4                   (a)     applying a coating mix to said saturated plant tissue;  
5                   (b)     draining said coating mix from said coated plant tissue; and  
6                   (c)     drying said coated plant tissue.

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1                   Claim 24 (cancelled)  
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